

Interim Remedial Measure Proposed; Public Comment Period and Community Availability Session Announced

Community Availability Session, July 16, 2025, at 6:00 PM West Islip High School, Cafeteria A/B, 1 Lions Path, West Islip, 11795

DEC invites you to a community availability session to discuss the expedited cleanup proposed for the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, and during the 30-day comment period described in this fact sheet.

DEC will provide interpreter services for hearing impaired persons and language interpreter services for individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English at no charge upon written request submitted no later than July 2, 2025.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (DOH), is proposing an expedited cleanup of contamination from the Dzus Fastener Co., Inc. site located at 425 Union Boulevard, West Islip, Suffolk County. The expedited cleanup is for Operable Unit 7 (OU7), which represents off-site groundwater contamination. Please see the map for the site location.

DEC is conducting a public comment period because this Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) is likely to represent a significant part of the cleanup for off-site groundwater. The expedited cleanup activities are expected to begin in August 2025 and last approximately three months. The activities will be performed by EA Engineering, a DEC consultant, with oversight provided by DEC.

How to Comment

DEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan for 30 days, from **June 30** through **July 30, 2025**.

- Access the Draft IRM Work Plan and other project documents online through the DECinfo Locator: <https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/152033/> .
- Documents also are available at the location(s) identified under "Where to find information."
- Please submit comments to the DEC project manager listed under Project-Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area.

The site is listed as a Class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

Draft Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) Work Plan

An IRM is a cleanup activity that may be performed when a source of contamination or exposure pathway (the way in which a person may come in contact with contamination) can be effectively addressed without extensive investigation and evaluation.

The draft IRM work plan describes the proposed cleanup activities that include:

- Install a Permeable Reactive Barrier (PRB) off-site to address downgradient groundwater contamination and protect Willets Creek. The installation of the PRB wall include some

excavation. The excavated material will be properly disposed of off-site. Any backfill needed will meet the state's stringent cleanup requirements;

- Collect and analyze post-cleanup groundwater samples to evaluate the effectiveness of the cleanup; and
- Implement a Health and Safety Plan and Community Air Monitoring Plan during all ground-intrusive activities to prevent off-site impacts.

The PRB is a wall created below ground to clean up contaminated groundwater. The wall is "permeable," which means that groundwater can flow through it. Water must flow through the PRB to be treated. The "reactive" materials that make up the wall will trap the harmful contaminants, including cadmium. When the contaminated groundwater flows through the barrier, the contaminants, such as cadmium, settle out of the groundwater by forming solid particles that get trapped in the wall.

DEC developed the proposed expedited cleanup for OU7 after the on-site owner illegally removed the asphalt cap at the eastern end of the former facility and increasing cadmium concentrations in sediment and surface water of Willets Creek were observed behind Captree Plaza and along the creek. The asphalt cap was an engineering control required by DEC to prevent stormwater infiltration and minimize the off-site transport of remaining contamination through groundwater. DEC is pursuing enforcement for the illegal cap removal and is also evaluating other ways to optimize additional contamination removal needed at the site. DEC will continue to keep the public informed throughout the process and all additional proposed actions.

Next Steps

DEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and approve the IRM work plan in consultation with DOH. The approved work plan will be made available to the public (see "Where to Find Information" on front page).

Upon completion of the expedited cleanup activities, a Construction Completion Report will be prepared that documents the activities that were performed.

DEC will continue to maintain updates on the Dzus website and keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup.

Site Description

The former Dzus facility site (OU1) is one-acre located in a mixed residential, commercial, and industrial area. The site is bounded by Union Avenue to the south, Beach Street to the west, and Long Island Railroad tracks to the north. The nearest residence is approximately 150 feet north of the site. The site is triangular in shape and relatively flat and is defined as the portion of the former four-acre Dzus Fasteners Co., Inc. where leaching pools were located. There are newly constructed commercial buildings on site. One of the buildings has partially been constructed on top of the historic In-Situ Stabilization areas. Immediately to the east of the site is Willetts Creek which drains south into Lake Capri, an eight-acre man-made lake. Lake Capri drains into the tidal portion of Willetts Creek through a culvert located under Montauk Highway.

OU7 is the off-site groundwater and is the subject of this expedited cleanup.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the site ID, 152033) at: <https://appfactory.dec.ny.gov/DERExternalSearch/ERDSearch>

Summary of the Investigation

The primary contaminants of concern are cadmium and chromium, which are present in on-site soils (OU1) and groundwater (OU7).

State Superfund Program

New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup, and monitoring.

DEC attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination before committing State funds for investigation and cleanup. For more information about the SSF, visit: <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/brownfield-and-state-superfund-programs/state-superfund-sites>

Stay Informed with DEC Delivers

We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.

Sign up to receive site updates by email:

<https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/regional-remediation-project-information/environmental-cleanup-email-newsletters>

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.

DECinfo Locator

Interactive map to access DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites: <https://dec.ny.gov/maps/interactive-maps/decinfo-locator>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Project-Related Questions

Gavin Vlainich, Project Manager
DEC, Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233
p: (518) 402-9665
gavin.vlainich@dec.ny.gov

Project-Related Health Questions

Mark Sergott, P.G., Project Manager
DOH, Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation
Empire State Plaza – Corning Tower, Room 1787
p: (518) 402-7860
beei@health.ny.gov

WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION

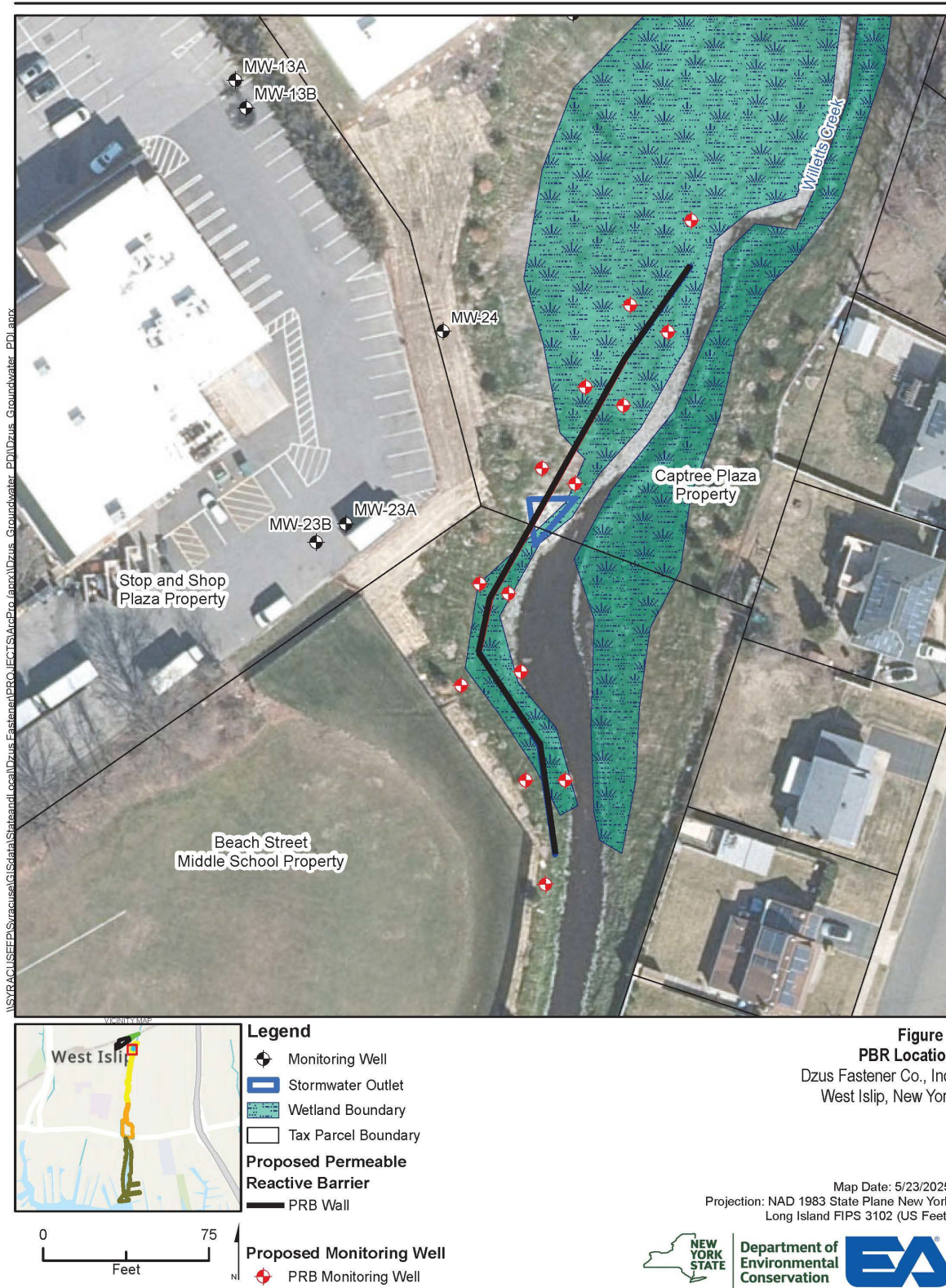
Access project documents through the DECinfo Locator and at these location(s):
<https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/152033/>

West Islip Public Library

3 Higbie Lane
West Islip, NY 11795
(631) 661-7080

Key project documents and project summary also are available on the NYSDEC website at: <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/regional-remediation-project-information/region-1/environmental-cleanup-dzus-fastener-company>

IRM Location





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